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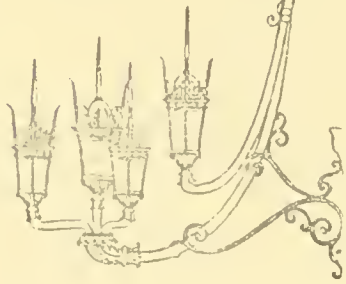
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# NORTH END RECREATION / OPEN SPACE STUDY

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NORTH END RECREATION  
AND OPEN SPACE STUDY

Prepared for  
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

By  
BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Spring, 1968

THE NORTH END RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE STUDY

This report is a summary of five preliminary studies<sup>\*</sup> on the recreation and open space facilities in the North End of Boston. The five reports include a study on population, housing and land use; an inventory of the existing supply of recreation and open space facilities; an analysis of the adequacy and the need for these facilities; a preliminary plan for recreation and open space facilities; and an implementation plan. This study was undertaken by the Boston Redevelopment Authority Planning Department to determine an effective plan for the development of more adequate recreation and open space facilities in the densely built up North End of Boston.

<sup>\*</sup> Kept on BIA / 2186



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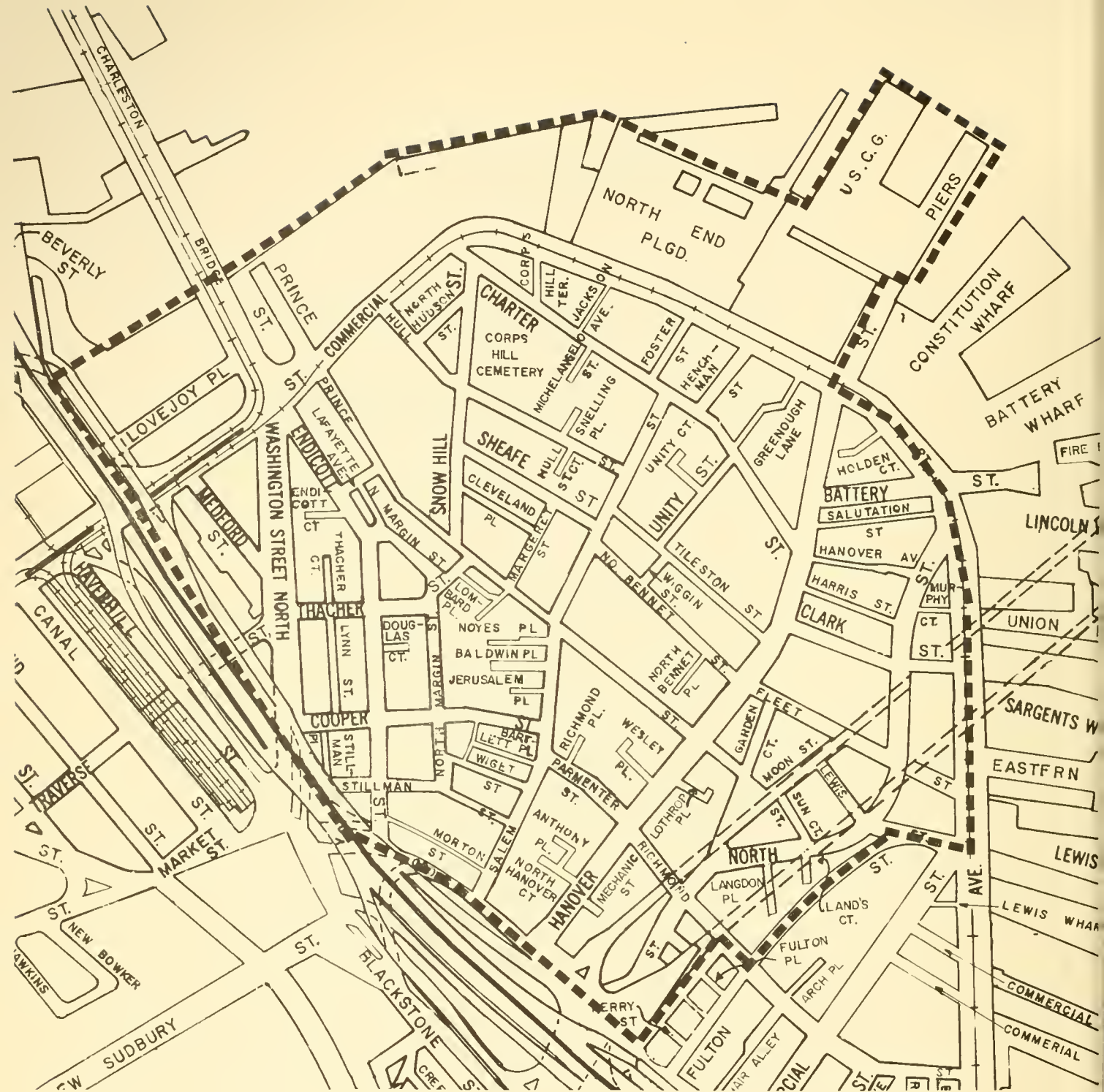
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# North End Study Area

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE NORTH END

The North End is located near the marketing, government and waterfront areas of downtown Boston. It is the home of a major segment of the city's Italian population. The neighborhood is characterized by narrow streets, four and five story walk-up apartment buildings, and bustling shopping streets with bakeries, restaurants and open markets. In addition, important historic sites and examples of pre-revolutionary and federal architecture are located in the North End, some of which are highlighted on a popular walking tour, the Freedom Trail.

The following information on the North End including population, housing and land use, is provided as background material. It is important to become familiar with the North End in order to more effectively plan the needed types of recreation and open space facilities.

### Population

The population of the North End decreased from 15,000 in 1950 to 12,000 in 1960. The rate of decrease has slowed down more recently, indicating a stabilizing of the total number at about 11,000 in 1965 (see Table VI, page 46).

The residential density of the North End, measured in terms of persons per residential acre, was over seven times greater than the City of Boston in 1965. There were about 300 persons per residential acre in the North End compared to about 40 persons per residential acre in the city as a whole (see Table VII, page 47).

In 1960, about 30% of the population of the North End was under 20 years of age and 19% of the population was over 60 years of age. Therefore, almost half of the population or about 5,800 people were younger than 20 years or older than 60 years (see Table VIII, page 48). This indicates that recreation facilities in the North End should satisfy the needs of mothers with babies, active tots, sports minded teenagers and older residents.

In 1960, over 8,000 persons, or about 94% of the total foreign stock, were either born in Italy or of Italian parentage. Consequently, such recreational activities as boccie, an outdoor bowling game popular with Italians, and an active street life such as promenading, congregating to talk, and the playing of games attracts residents of all ages throughout the day and evening. These and similar activities should be accommodated in the planning of recreational facilities in the North End.

### Housing

In 1960, about 4,400 housing units were located in the North End primarily in multi-family housing structures with 98% of the units in structures containing three or more units (see Table IX, page 49). Most housing units are located in predominantly four-story or higher red brick row house structures with little, if any, open yard space. The narrow treeless streets and alleys of the area provide the only open space in the neighborhood directly adjacent to most housing units.

### Land Use

It is important to understand how the land is used in the North End to determine the relationship of existing open space and recreational facilities to residential, commercial and institutional uses as well as to the circulation system.

The North End is primarily a residential area with housing units and shopping facilities located on practically all streets. Many of the housing units are located above commercial uses on the major shopping streets such as Salem and Hanover Streets.

Public facilities are located throughout the neighborhood in no particular pattern. The two public schools, Michelangelo Junior High and Eliot School, are located in the northern section of the neighborhood. The public library branch, and the police and fire stations are conveniently located to serve the neighborhood.

Semi-public and private institutions are more centrally located in the neighborhood with a major concentration near Polcari Playground. Located here are the Christopher Columbus Youth Center, St. Anthony's School, Central High School, St. Leonard's

Church, the Bethel Christian Center, North Bennet Street Industrial School and the North End Union.

Public open space consists of nine and a half acres, of which, seven and a half acres are in public parks and playgrounds. Two acres are occupied by a public historic burying ground. The open space areas range in size from a few hundred square feet to over three and one half acres. Most of the open space is located in the northern blocks and along a portion of the waterfront. Located here are DeFilippo Playground, Cops Hill Cemetery and Terrace and the North End Beach and Playground. A second concentration of open space is located in the vicinity of Paul Revere Mall which includes the small garden areas adjacent to Old North Church, and three small playgrounds: Charter Street, Eliot School and Polcari. The remaining open space is negligible.

Open space areas are well located in relation to housing; however, few open space areas are located in the southern sections of the neighborhood. Nevertheless, most open play areas are within easy walking distance from all parts of the neighborhood.

Vacant land and building parcels are scattered throughout the neighborhood. A survey of these areas was made to determine the potential of utilizing some of these areas for additional recreation and open space.

Circulation problems exist for both pedestrians and vehicles in the North End as congestion and confusion for both reaches its apex in the vicinity of the Central Artery. In addition, the narrow streets are used intensively for parking and automobile and bus traffic are impeded.



# Location of Existing Recreation and Open Space Facilities



INVENTORY OF EXISTING SUPPLY OF RECREATIONAND OPEN SPACE FACILITIESINTRODUCTION

To better understand the recreation and open space needs in the North End it is important to know what facilities of this type are available, their problems and positive features. For this reason, an inventory of the existing supply of recreation and open space facilities was compiled and is presented in the following order: (see Table V, page 43, for areas of open space).

Public Parks and Open Spaces

Public Playfields and Playgrounds

Public School Playgrounds

Other Public Recreational Facilities

Private and Parochial Schools

Private and Church Affiliated Recreational Facilities

PUBLIC PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

Four small parks totalling about one and a half acres and a two acre historic cemetery are located in the North End. They consist of Copps Hill Terrace, Paul Revere Mall and extension, Rachael Revere Square and the Copps Hill Burying Ground.

Numbers refer to key on map.

Copps Hill Terrace (1)

Located adjacent to Copps Hill Burying Ground with fine views to the waterfront and Charlestown's historic sites, the potential of Copps Hill Terrace has been ignored. The small park's paved terrace, stone walls and steps are in disrepair and are marked with spray paint. In addition, the landscaping

does not enhance the site. The only facility located here is a shelter which is also deteriorating and marked. The park's poor condition is clearly the result of disrespect in use and care.

#### Paul Revere Mall (2)

This heavily used urban park is in the heart of the bustling commercial district of the North End and visually connects two important historic sites, the Old North Church and St. Stephen's Church. The area is landscaped and paved in a formal manner and includes an equestrian statue of Paul Revere, a fountain and several commemorative plaques on the brick walls. Until just recently, the appearance of the Mall reflected misuse and the lack of maintenance as the walls were marked with paint, the paving was deteriorating, some tree pits were empty, and the area was strewn with litter. Recently, the Parks and Recreation Department began rehabilitating the Mall as part of the 1967 Urban Beautification Program.

This popular park is used by many North End residents as well as tourists who pass through along the Freedom Trail. However, tourist buses parked on Hanover Street in front of the Mall and St. Stephen's Church block the view, emit noxious fumes from running motors, impede traffic flow and create difficulties for fire apparatus attempting to negotiate turns from the nearby fire station.

#### Paul Revere Mall Extension (3)

This small space, located between Paul Revere Mall and the Old North Church, is also along the Freedom Trail. The small court is in excellent condition and received better maintenance than Paul Revere Mall.

#### Rachael Revere Square (4)

Rachael Revere Square, adjacent to historic North Square, is a small paved area surrounded by a brick wall with one opening and contains a few benches but no landscaping. It is heavily used by children at recess from a nearby school and less used as a sitting area for adults. The space is not landscaped and the walls are badly marked with spray paint.

Commercial Street and is recommended from this point to the Charlestown Bridge.

Thus, Commercial Street will have some visual continuity and will help strengthen the visual link between the old North End and the new and rehabilitated structures developed along the waterfront.

Currently, it is a flat, asphalt paved area which is unbearable on hot days as there is no landscaping. Further, use for active sports is inhibited by a tot lot which takes up space in the large flat area. The most unique aspect of the playground is the terraced levels connected by steps in the northern corner. Another unusual feature is the buttressed wall along Snowhill Street.

#### Douglas Court Play Area (9)

This small inner block space is located off Endicott Street and is in very poor condition. Facilities include broken benches and lights. Like other playgrounds in the North End, this area is not landscaped and presents an unsightly appearance.

#### Foster Street Playground (10)

Foster Street Playground is located on Foster Street near Commercial Street and does not have any play facilities. The concrete surface is not level and there are paint markings on the walls. In addition, no landscaping exists to soften the harshness of the asphalt surface and the playground is surrounded by unsightly chain link fencing. In sum, Foster Street Playground is a very uninviting play space.

#### North End Beach and Playground (11)

The North End Beach and Playground is located across Commercial Street from Copps Hill Terrace and consists of 3.6 acres, the largest open space in the North End. The area consists of a two acre playfield, two swimming pools, a bathhouse including shower, two dressing rooms, a wading pool, a tot lot, and two basketball courts. It has a good waterfront location and good pool facilities. The playfield is the only one in the neighborhood, but the turf is worn, the softball diamonds are incorrectly laid out in relation to the sun, and the sizes of the outfield areas are inadequate. The area has been poorly maintained and no landscaping exists.

Polcari Playground (12)

Polcari Playground is located in a busy area between Prince Street and North Bennet Street. The playground is heavily used by children of all ages enrolled in the surrounding schools. It is located near the center of the neighborhood and near other public and private recreation facilities. Also, it allows passage from Prince Street to North Bennet Street in the middle of the block. The area does not have any play equipment and is very noisy because of its heavy use during recess. In addition, no lighting or landscaping exists. In short, the Polcari Playground is one of the most heavily used in the North End because of its excellent location, rather than its limited attractions.

PUBLIC SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDSEliot Elementary School (13)

Eliot School is located on Charter Street near Hanover Street and was built in 1932. The site includes a small playground without any play facilities, except game courts which are painted on the asphalt. The school playground is separated from Paul Revere Mall by a gate which is usually locked. However, the school is across the street from Charter Street Playground which the children may use after school. The major problem here is that the site is too small for the enrollment of the school.

Michelangelo Junior High School (14)

Michelangelo is located on Charter Street near Copps Hill and was built in 1919 with a gymnasium added in 1921 and an auditorium added in 1930. The total site of two-thirds of an acre includes a small open area which is used for both parking and a small playground. There are no recreational facilities outside, however, there is a small 30' by 50' gym with basketball hoops indoors. There are no expansion possibilities for this site. Outdoor physical education programs are conducted at the North End Park during school day afternoons.

OTHER PUBLIC RECREATIONAL FACILITIESCutillo Skating Rink (15)

Cutillo Skating Rink is located on a small site in a congested part of the neighborhood. This relatively new facility is closed due to a history of vandalism and decreasing use. Occasionally, the rink is used as an indoor play area by St. Mary School pupils during recess. The Metropolitan District Commission, operator of the facility, does not plan to reopen the facility.

North Bennet Street Public Bath and Gym (16)

Located adjacent to Polcari Playground this public facility has served an important health function in the North End for over sixty years. The public bath facility is one of two still operating in Boston, and is still used regularly, although attendance is decreasing. The gym on the top level is heavily used by schools and athletic organizations in the North End. Its age, heavy use, and maintenance difficulties have resulted in the deterioration of the facility.

PRIVATE AND PAROCHIAL SCHOOLSNorth Bennet Street Industrial School (17)

Located at 39 North Bennet Street, the North Bennet Street Industrial School is a settlement house operation which provides several social, educational, and recreational services in the North End. Its major recreational programs are conducted by the North End Athletic Association (N.E.A.A.) which is headquartered here and operates an active basketball and outdoor recreational program.

Central High School (18)

Central High School, 20 Tileston Street, operates in two divisions; Christopher Columbus High School for boys and Julie Billiart High School for girls. The school has limited indoor recreational facilities but several indoor athletic activities are carried on in the gymnasium at the Public Bath and at the Christopher Columbus Recreation Center.

St. Anthony School (19)

Located at 53 Prince Street adjacent to Polcari Playground, the school makes use of the playground for its outdoor activities. The school does not have any indoor recreational facilities.

St. John School (20)

St. John School, 9 Moon Street, does not have any outdoor recreation area, however, the three adjacent streets are blocked off from traffic and guarded by a policeman to provide street play areas for children at lunch time. Also, the children play in Rachael Revere Square and in North Square.

St. Mary School (21)

St. Mary School is located at 33 Stillman Street and does not have either outside or indoor recreational facilities. During recess children use the Knights of Columbus yard and the Cutillo Skating Rink when supervised by school personnel.

PRIVATE AND CHURCH AFFILIATED RECREATIONAL FACILITIESChristopher Columbus Youth Center (22)

The Columbus Center, located at 44 Prince Street and built in 1950, is one of the newest recreational facilities in the North End. The center is operated by the Archdiocese and includes a gymnasium and an auditorium and is used primarily for basketball, volleyball, and other kinds of indoor recreational activities. In addition to use by Central High for its varsity basketball games and gym classes, the N.E.A.A. and Pop Warner League use the gym also for their league basketball games. Other rooms in the center are used for adult education, ceramics, as well as for meetings for other groups. Teachers from Central High are part-time supervisors during the school's physical educational activities. N.E.A.A. and Pop Warner personnel supervise their own game. Since the gym is in high demand, there are difficulties in coordinating the use of the facility by the various groups.

Bethel Christian Center (23)

Bethel Center is located at 332 Hanover Street and is operated by the Baptist Church. It was constructed in 1911 and contains a small playroom which provides space for activities such as gymnastics, volleyball, weight lifting, wrestling and basketball.

North End Union (24)

The North End Union is a settlement house constructed in 1892 and located at 20 Parmenter Street. The operating agent is the Benevolent Fraternity of Unitarian Churches. It is also the headquarters of other social service agencies such as the Rehabilitation and Conservation Committee, the North End Community Action Program, and the North End/West End Employment Center. The North End Union's facilities include two gyms, gamerooms, showers, meeting rooms, auditorium and stage, kitchen, and offices. They accommodate a variety of activities such as parties, dances, games, special interest classes, gymnastics, weight lifting, wrestling, basketball, and programs for senior citizens. The North End Union cooperates with the North End Athletic Association and its organized athletic programs in the use of the facilities.

Knights of Columbus (25)

Located at 41-43 North Margin Street, the Knights of Columbus occupy the building that was once a City of Boston health unit. This structure was built in 1924 and contains a gymnasium and a pool room, but the use of these facilities is for members only. The outdoor space is sometimes used by St. Mary School students at recess time.



ADEQUACY AND NEEDS PERTAINING TO RECREATIONAND OPEN SPACE FACILITIESINTRODUCTION

It is important to determine the adequacy of outdoor recreation and open space facilities as well as indoor recreational facilities in terms of quality, quantity, and need before developing specific proposals for improvement or expansion. This analysis can aid in the formulation of proposals which are most beneficial to the people in the neighborhood and in the determination of the priorities for implementation. Both the outdoor and the indoor recreational facilities were analyzed.

SUMMARY OF OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

The nine and a half acres of open space in the North End are adequate for a population of 11,000 but not enough of it is in ample sized play areas. The neighborhood is specifically deficient in adequately sized playfields. Football and softball are accommodated at only one playfield at the North End Beach and Playground, and informal use of this area is often pre-empted by organized athletic leagues. Field games are not accommodated elsewhere because of lack of space.

Most of the playgrounds are small, poorly equipped and in poor condition. None of the playgrounds are well lighted or landscaped.

Basketball, a very popular activity, is accommodated at only one outdoor playground. However, swimming is accommodated rather well at the North End Beach and Playground.

The small parks are in slightly better condition than the playgrounds, but Copps Hill Terrace is in especially poor condition.

Early evening recreational programs are conducted at several small playgrounds during the summer. However, all day recreational programs are operated at only one site.

Parks and playgrounds are generally well located in relation to schools and population, except in the southern blocks of the neighborhood. However, Cutillo Rink is poorly located on a small site in congested surroundings. Only one open space is located well in relation to the waterfront, but direct access to the water is prohibited. In addition, open spaces are well located in relation to sites of architectural or historical interest in the North End.

Open space areas are not connected well, although a continuous arrangement of open spaces exists in the northern blocks of the neighborhood. The remaining open spaces are scattered in no particular relation to each other.

#### OUTDOOR RECREATION NEEDS

The following list attempts to summarize the outdoor recreation needs of the North End which are based on the previous inventory and an analysis of existing facilities and discussions with North End residents:

1. Additional playfield space for use of North End residents and not as part of city-wide league play.
2. Better equipment and maintenance at all existing playgrounds.
3. Additional playgrounds, if feasible, especially in blocks near the Central Artery, where only one small park exists.
4. More supervised outdoor recreational programs at more playgrounds.
5. Better programmed use of limited playfield facilities at North End Beach and Playground for organized leagues.
6. Additional places to sit or congregate in landscaped rest parks in busy sections and in playgrounds with play lots.
7. Better located and larger skating rink which may accommodate both roller and ice skating and be in use year round.

8. Access to waterfront for boating activities including limited mooring facilities.
9. General beautification of the area by cleaning up parks, appropriate placement of street trees, and better landscaping of all public areas.

### INDOOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

#### Summary of Indoor Recreational Facilities

There are several types of indoor recreational facilities including gymnasiums, auditoria, craft rooms, and meeting rooms in the North End. Most of the facilities are small and in fair to poor condition. One new major private facility is in excellent condition. The facilities are well located, in terms of population served, and moderately well located in relation to schools. Popular activities as basketball and volleyball, plus individual exercises and arts and crafts are accommodated in many of the facilities, but there is need for additional space. Individual and team athletic programs are conducted at several facilities, but because of heavy demand coordination problems have existed. In addition, no centralized public community center exists where expanded indoor recreational programs may be coordinated in new ample size facilities.

### INDOOR RECREATION NEEDS

1. Better coordination of neighborhood recreational programs especially in the use of existing limited gymnasium facilities for basketball.
2. New indoor recreational facilities as an ample sized gymnasium, modern and clean showers, well equipped craft rooms, and meeting rooms.

These needs along with those for outdoor facilities can be interpreted as specific objectives to achieve the general goal of improving recreational and open space opportunities in the North End. These needs are used as guidelines for planning improvements as existing facilities and in the development of new indoor and outdoor recreational facilities.



# Existing and Proposed Recreation and Open Space Facilities

EXISTING



PROPOSED



PRELIMINARY PLAN PROPOSALS FOR RECREATION  
AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES

INTRODUCTION

The recommendations in this report are developed to achieve the recreational potential of existing and proposed sites, and were based on recreational needs, size, shape and location of each site. Specific recommendations from North End residents were obtained from informal meetings held in the neighborhood between the Planning Department and North End agencies concerned with recreation. In addition, the need for strengthening the open space links and the need for enhancing architectural and historical sites influenced the recommendations.

The plan should achieve an overall beautification of the neighborhood particularly in the public areas, and will aid in stabilizing the North End as a downtown residential neighborhood.

The plan proposes an increase of over seven acres in recreational open space. All existing parks and playgrounds are to be improved and the following new facilities are proposed:

Three new urban plazas.

A waterfront recreation area, including a community center, playing fields, tennis courts, skating rink.

Seven play lots and small rest parks.

Total existing and proposed open space will consist of over 16 acres.\* The recommendations for all existing and proposed recreational facilities are presented in the order outlined below:

Parks and Open Spaces

Urban Plazas

\*See Table V for summary of proposals, page

Waterfront Recreation Area

Playgrounds

Play Lots and Rest Parks

Pedestrian Path Improvements

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

### Copps Hill Terrace (Existing Site-1)

The major proposals for Copps Hill Terrace encourage greater use of its unique topography and setting as a location for public gatherings of many kinds and a pleasant park from which to view the waterfront and historic sights of Charlestown. Specifically, major cleaning of stone work and the repair of paving, the addition of appropriate lighting, benches and landscaping will promote greater use by residents as well as tourists who are visiting Copps Hill Cemetery. In addition, a small publicly owned parcel of land on Commercial Street adjacent to the park should be transferred to the Parks and Recreation Department and appropriately landscaped as part of Copps Hill Terrace.

### Copps Hill Cemetery (Existing Site-2)

This beautiful historic cemetery should be more accessible to the general public. Therefore, it is recommended that both gates of the cemetery be opened every day throughout the year and locked at night. A custodian should continue to be present when the cemetery is open as is the case now. Additional benches should be provided to permit relaxing in pleasant shaded areas. Tombstones should be repaired and cleaned where necessary and appropriate protected lighting should be installed throughout the cemetery and at both gates.

Paul Revere Mall (Existing Site-3)

The Parks and Recreation Department is currently rehabilitating Paul Revere Mall at a cost of nearly \$18,000. Major improvements include the repairing and replacing of existing blue-stone pavement, planting of eight trees and replacing brick paving in existing tree pits. The new improvements are being financed with assistance from a federal Urban Beautification Grant.

It is recommended that tour bus parking be prohibited on Hanover Street and in front of Paul Revere Mall, and that parking for tour buses with motors stopped be permitted on nearby Battery Street.

Paul Revere Mall Extension (Existing Site-4)

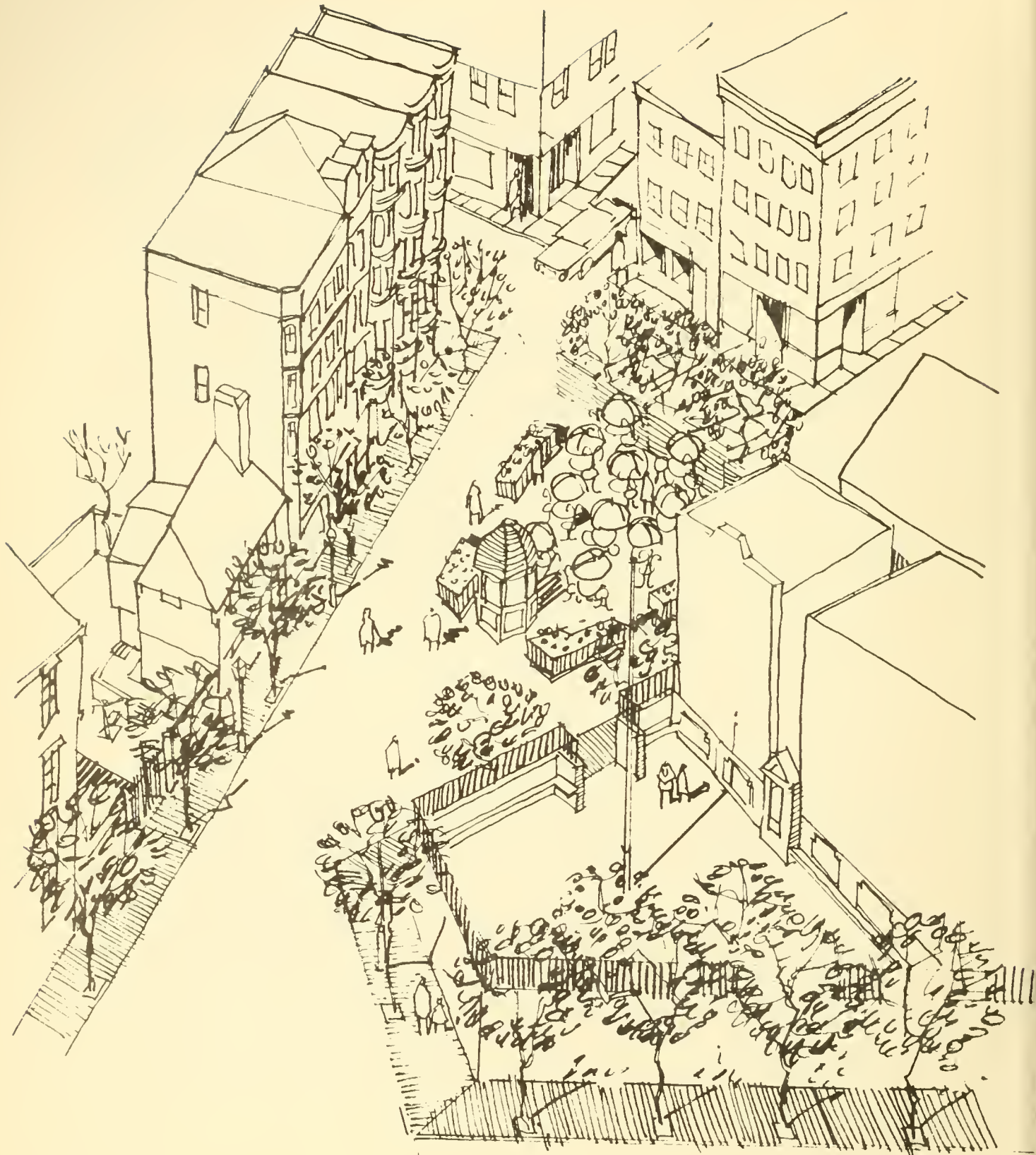
The level of present maintenance at this small court has been sufficient to maintain its attractiveness and should be continued.

URBAN PLAZAS

North Square (New Site-5)

A public plaza is proposed here to provide a more suitable setting for the adjacent historic sites and provide additional open play space for nearby elementary school children. (See Illustration 4).

Specifically, the Square should be vacated from Prince Street to North Street, and parking should not be permitted except along Prince Street. The one way direction should be reversed on Moon Street to permit access from the north to North Square. Facilities in the Square should include benches and small tables in a landscaped area and a small concession stand which could be removed during the cold



Proposed North Square & Rachael Revere Square



months. The central idea is to create a pleasant lively setting in which to relax, play, and enjoy one of Boston's old historic squares.

Rachael Revere Square (Existing Site-6)

New paving, additional lighting, the placement of a few trees, plus cleaning of the walls constitute the major proposals here. In addition, large street trees should be placed on North Street adjacent to the small square to block the view of the Callahan Tunnel building from the Square.

Hanover Plaza (New Site-7)

A small vacant parcel located at 227 to 237 Hanover Street in the heart of the busy shopping area is proposed for development as a rest park with tables, chairs, and a concession stand. The property is well located near the major entrance to the North End from downtown amidst the shopping area, and directly on the Freedom Trail route. Use as a sidewalk cafe is guaranteed as it would provide a pleasant public area for light refreshment for North Enders and tourists.

Endicott Square (New Site-8)

A vacant lot in a strategic location is currently used as a parking lot and presents an unsightly appearance in the neighborhood. The lot faces an area where North Margin Street and Endicott Street meet and form a small widening in the public right-of-way. This space is used during the summer for religious feasts and street festivals. Throughout the remainder of the year this space is unused for recreation. The possibility exists to develop a plaza at

this site by vacating about 1200 square feet of the public right-of-way and including it in the redesign of the vacant lot for this purpose. Therefore, a landscaped public plaza is proposed which will improve the appearance of this intersection and this part of the neighborhood.

#### WATERFRONT RECREATION AREA (See Illustration 5)

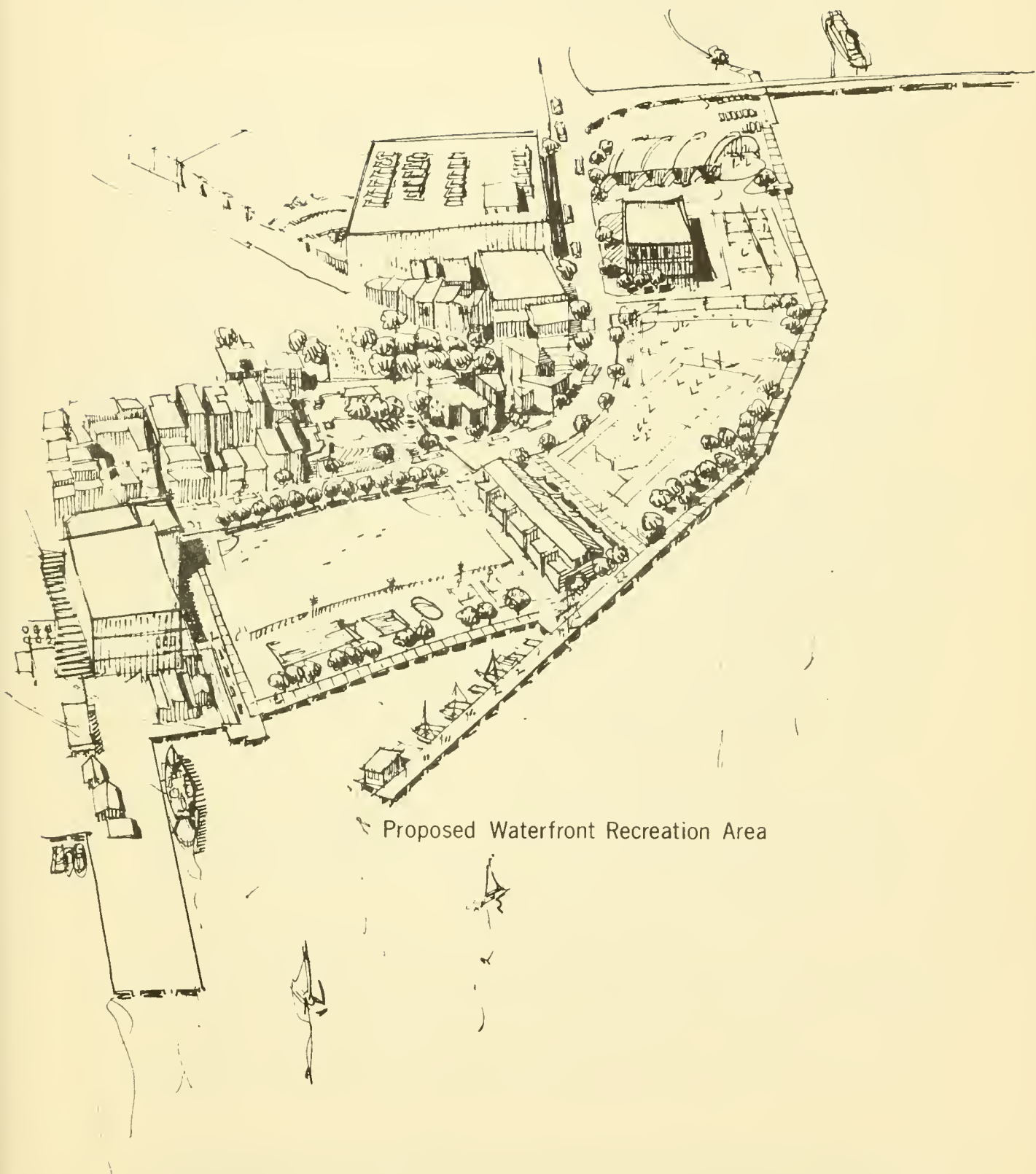
A nine and one half acre recreation area is proposed along the North End waterfront extending from the U.S. Coast Guard Base to the Charlestown Bridge. This area would be a multi-facility recreation area including an enlarged and rehabilitated playing field at the existing North End Beach and Playground, a community center, additional playing fields, tennis courts, a skating rink, a public landing and a waterfront walkway. The complex would involve development of almost six acres of public and private properties between the existing North End Beach and Playground and the Charlestown Bridge, excluding the property occupied by the Federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The recreational complex would require about one and a half acres of land fill between the bulkhead and pier lines.

A summary of the major elements of the recreational area follows:

#### North End Beach and Playground (Existing Site-9)

An enlarged and improved playing field and the rearrangement of other existing facilities are the major proposals for this site. Expansion of the playing field and grandstand area is possible by relocating the existing bathhouse, the spray pool and bocce courts elsewhere on the site. The bathhouse should be demolished, because it is deteriorating and too expensive to rehabilitate.\* New shower facilities should be constructed at the rear of the existing Harbor Police Building. A new spray pool should be constructed adjacent to the existing pools and new bocce courts should be located east of the pools near the water's edge.

\* A recent survey by the Public Facilities Department determined that it would cost \$80,000 to rehabilitate the bath facility.



Proposed Waterfront Recreation Area

The new shower facility should be planned to serve a public bath function, when the North Bennet Street Public Bath is demolished. In addition, the showers should be accessible for use from gym areas in a proposed community center at this location.

Additional improvements at the North End Beach and Playground should include floodlights to light the field for night use (already programmed by the Parks Department), redesign of area with basketball hoops and a protected, lighted and landscaped walkway from Commercial Street to the water's edge along the western edge of the playfield.

#### Community Center (New Facility-10)

A community center building, including such facilities as a gymnasium, possibly an indoor swimming pool, handball courts, activity and hobby rooms, office space for center administration and social service agencies, and meeting and storage space is proposed in this new recreation area.

Proposed for the site of the existing Harbor Police Building\*, the new community center would be well located to coordinate and supervise many of the activities in the new recreation area. If construction of a new community center is considered too costly, the feasibility of rehabilitating the Harbor Police Building should be considered. In addition, new bathhouse facilities proposed for the North End Beach and Playground should be oriented to also serve the indoor pool and gym areas proposed for the new community center.

A community center, more centrally located in the North End, would be difficult to develop and would not enjoy the advantages of being located in the midst of a waterfront recreation area.

#### Additional Playfields, Tennis Courts, Skating Rink and Waterfront Walkway (New Site-11)

Playing fields suitable for football, softball and soccer with spectator seating, tennis courts, an ice skating rink

\* Currently, the Public Facilities Department is undertaking a study to determine whether or not the Harbor Police Facility should be relocated to another site.

usable for other purposes in the summer and a waterfront walkway are proposed for the area between the existing Harbor Police Building and Charlestown Bridge.

#### Public Landing (New Facility-12)

A public boat landing is proposed to be situated between the North End Beach and Playground and the pier line.\*\* This landing, similar to the "embarcadero" which existed at one time at this location, would provide an excellent facility for public access to the water in a heavily congested portion of the city. Aside from the public docking of small craft, the facility would provide a pleasant walkway, areas for pier fishing, and areas for sitting at the harbor's edge.

#### Additional Comments

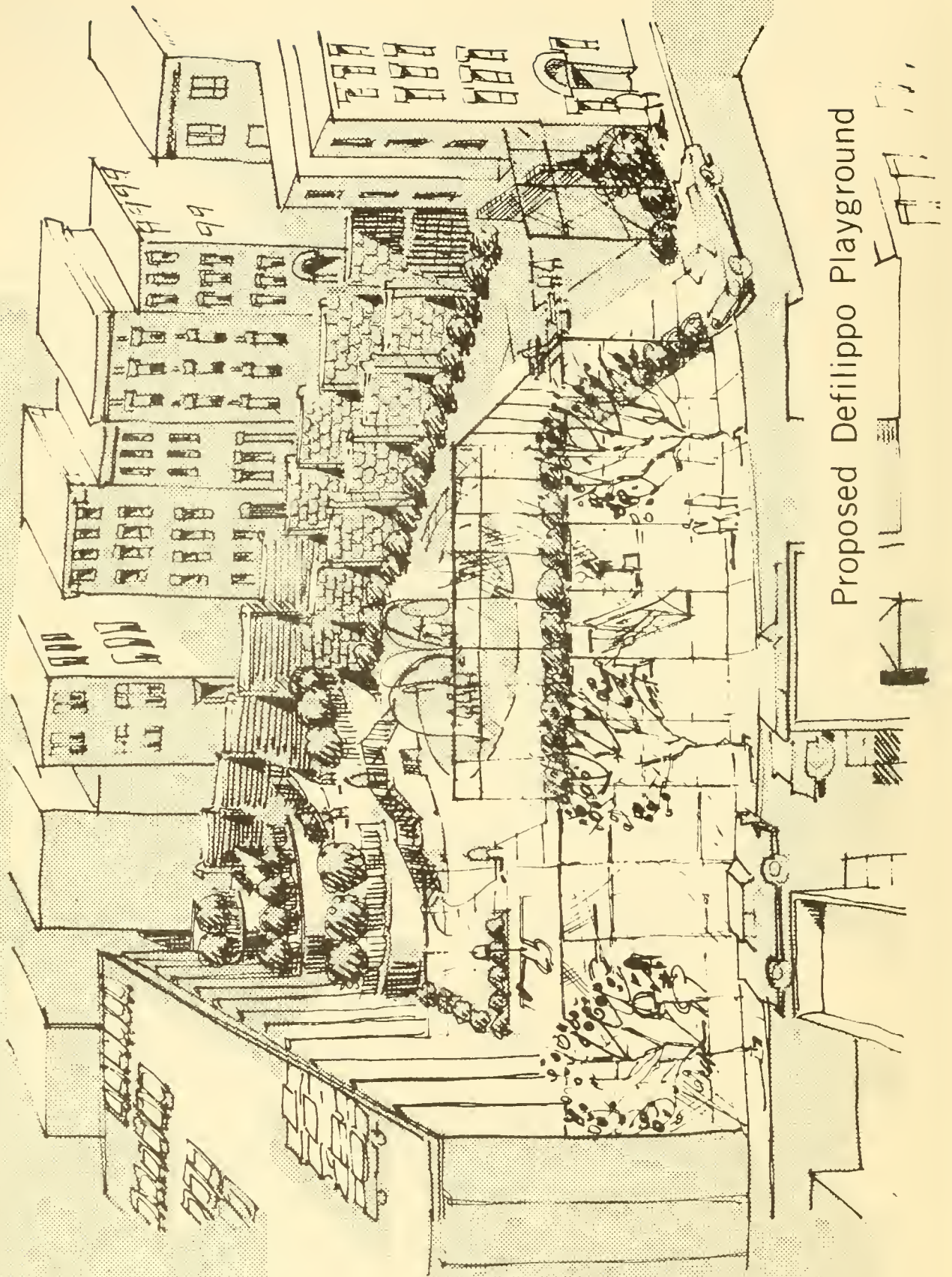
The entire waterfront recreation area should be well landscaped and lighted and game areas well protected by appropriate fencing. In addition, the planning and effectuation of the entire development will necessarily undergo certain changes in the location and type of facilities. Of prime importance is actual achievement of the recreational potential of this waterfront site, rather than relinquishing it to forces of other kinds of development.

#### PLAYGROUNDS

##### DeFilippo Playground (Existing Site-13) (See Illustration 6)

Game court areas for active teenagers, landscaped rest areas on the flat level area, and landscaped tot lots on the terraced levels are the major proposals for DeFilippo Playground. Specifically, facilities for tennis, handball, basketball, and volleyball as well as colorful, and safe play equipment for young children should be installed. Landscaping and lighting should be added to create a pleasant usable area both day and night.

\*\* This proposal, prepared by the Boston Redevelopment Authority Planning Department, was presented to the Public Access Board of the Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources in June, 1967.



Proposed Defilippo Playground

Polcari Playground (Existing Site-14)

New paved and turf areas, lighting, landscaping, benches along the edges of the playground, backboards for handball and basketball, and a smooth area for roller skating are the major proposals for Polcari.

Continued maintenance of the public bath facility is recommended until such time that a new public gymnasium and shower facility is constructed in the North End as part of a community center. At that time, the North Bennet Street Public Bath and Gym should be demolished and its site added to the open space of adjacent and busy Polcari Playground.

PLAY LOTS AND REST PARKSCharter Street Play Lot (Existing Site-15)

This playground is proposed to be developed as a play lot for young children with suitable play equipment. In addition, landscaped sitting areas should be provided. A small city-owned adjacent parcel of land should be added to the site and transferred to the Parks and Recreation Department. Development as a play lot, rather than an older children's playground, is proposed here because the site is small and is located across the street from Eliot Elementary School which has an extremely small play lot at its site.

Clark Street Park and Play Lot (New Site-16)

A small park and play lot of about one third of an acre is proposed at the site of burned out and vacant buildings located at 307 North Street and 280-290 Commercial Street. These adjacent properties are located between Commercial Street and North Street at Clark Street. The buildings are in poor condition and should be demolished. The land should be acquired and developed by the Parks and Recreation Department as a small landscaped parks and play lot.

Cleveland Place (New Site-17)

This small vacant lot is proposed for development as a combination rest park and play lot and should include areas for sitting, a small open area for free play, and a few pieces of play equipment.

Cutillo Play Lot (Existing Site-18)

The existing skating rink structure should be demolished and the site should be redesigned and reconstructed as an outdoor play lot for young children with sitting areas for mothers. Demolition of the structure and minor site preparation should be the responsibility of the Metropolitan District Commission which owns the facility. After completion, the site should be transferred to the Parks and Recreation Department for further development and maintenance responsibilities.

Douglas Court Play Lot (Existing Site-19)

A privately-owned adjacent parcel should be added to the site and the entire site developed as a combination play lot and rest park. It should include play equipment, lighting, and landscaping. The lot is well located for such a purpose, in the center of one of the most densely populated blocks in the neighborhood, in a section where no other play facilities exist.

Foster Street Play Lot (Existing Site-20)

The area should be developed as a play lot with appropriate equipment for younger children. New paving and soft surface areas should be provided. Landscaping should be planned to help minimize noise problems as the playground is surrounded by many apartments in a densely populated section of the neighborhood.



North Hanover Court and Anthony Place (New Site-21)

A well landscaped rest park, oriented to adults, is proposed for this site since it is located in the midst of a commercial-residential block with an elderly population. Facilities for bocce and table games should be provided to stimulate activities similar to those in Paul Revere Mall. The rest park should be paved and landscaped to provide both sunny and shaded areas. Heavy landscaping and decorative walls should be appropriately placed to screen the unsightly appearance of the rear of the buildings, yet provide service access where necessary. The area should be well lighted to promote evening use.

North Margin Street Play Lot (New Site-22)

It is recommended that a small public playground be developed by vacating a portion of North Margin Street between Stillman Street and Wiget Street, and by acquiring and demolishing a vacant burned out structure at 3-5-7 North Margin Street and a small one-story garage structure at 9 North Margin Street. This area is adjacent to St. Mary School and heavy use is guaranteed. Court games should be painted on the vacated street portion and play equipment, benches and landscaping should be located on the acquired land portion. The vacated street area should be designed so that emergency vehicles may pass through if necessary. The new playground should be well lighted so it can be used in the evening.

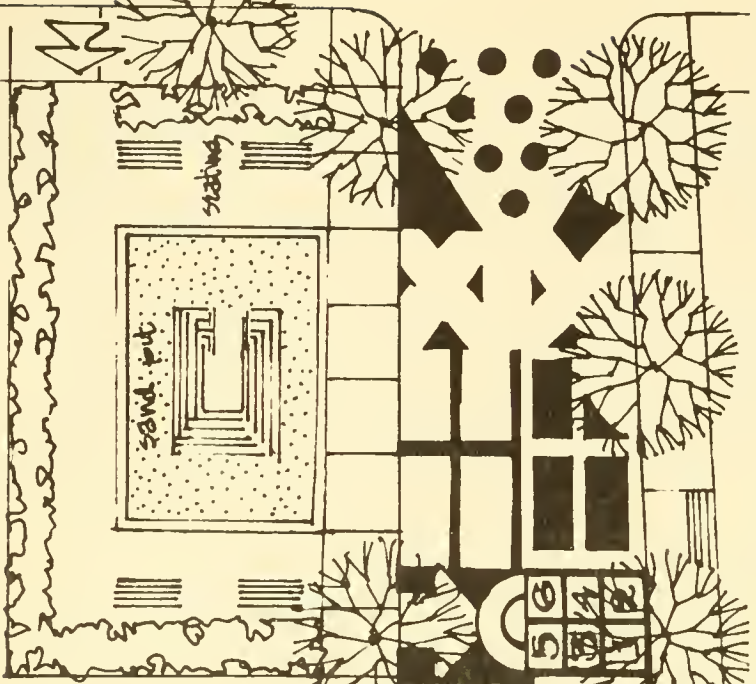
Sun Court Play Street (New Site-23)

(See Illustration 7)

Since Sun Court is one of the streets currently used for recess by St. John School and no private residences facing the street require access, it is proposed that Sun Court Street be vacated and developed as a play street play area. An additional vacant parcel at the corner of Sun Court Street and North Street should be acquired and added to the site. The entire site should be turned over to the Parks and Recreation Department for development and maintenance purposes. The pavement of Sun Court Street should be painted, outlining court areas for hopscotch,

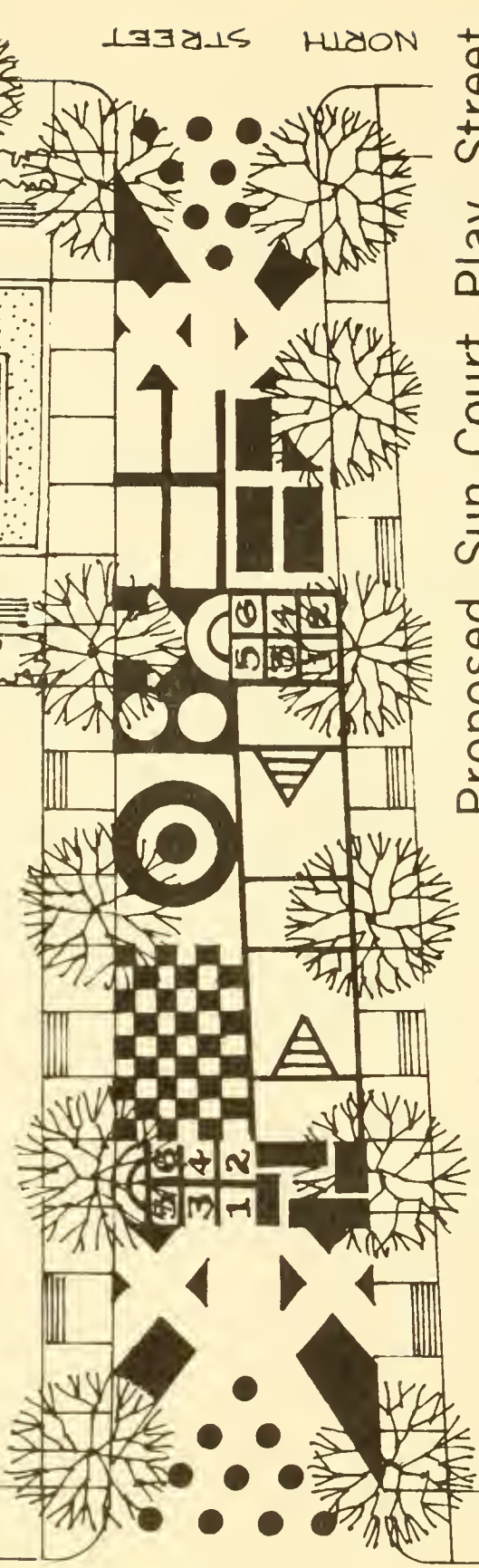
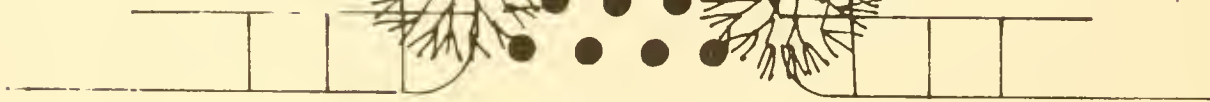
NORTH STREET

# Proposed Sun Court Play Street



MOON STREET

SACRED HEART CHURCH



shuffleboard, and other games which do not require fixed equipment. In this manner, emergency vehicles will be allowed to pass on Sun Court Street during emergencies. Fixed play equipment, benches, and landscaping should be located on the vacant parcel adjacent to the street. Benches and street trees should line the one block long street and the play street should be well lighted.

#### Tileston Street Rest Park (New Site-24)

A small vacant parcel at 9 Tileston Street should be acquired by the Parks and Recreation Department and converted into a "vest pocket park" with appropriate landscape, lighting, and sitting areas. The space is large enough for a few trees to create a pleasant, shaded sitting area. Also, the rest park should include a paved area with benches, lighting, waste receptacles, and some play equipment.

#### Wiget Street Rest Park (New Site-25)

An extremely small 317 square foot vacant parcel exists at 14 Wiget Street and is owned privately. Another opportunity exists to provide a small landscaped court in this densely populated neighborhood. The Parks and Recreation Department should acquire a small vacant parcel at 14 Wiget Street and provide a small landscaped sitting area on this extremely narrow street. The landscaped sitting area should include a decorative but well protected light to encourage use in the evening. Efforts such as this will aid in beautifying the North End.

#### PEDESTRIAN PATH IMPROVEMENTS

The North End is a pedestrian-oriented community, and it is important and desirable to include proposals in this recreation and open space study to improve pedestrian paths in the North End. Specifically, improvements are recommended along the Freedom Trail between market areas, between the residential areas and the waterfront, among open spaces, and along certain major streets. The proposals attempt to strengthen the links between major pedestrian areas and open spaces in an attempt to create a more legible and pleasant environment.

### Central Artery Pedestrian Underpass (26)

The pedestrian underpass under the Central Artery is the only major pedestrian access way between the North End and downtown Boston. This pedestrian underpass is also part of the Freedom Trail which recently has been made more identifiable by the construction of a strip of red bricks in the center of the existing pavement. While this attempt has made the Freedom Trail more legible, its effect on the grim environment of this pedestrian way has been negligible. The passage-way is especially dark and drab at night. Additional improvement is necessary to improve the appearance and utility of this busy walkway.

It is recommended that areas for the sale of market produce, flowers, newspapers, etc. be provided on either side of the underpass, but only directly under the highest clearance area of the main roadway of the elevated expressway. Also, benches, decorative lighting, new paving and better drainage is recommended. In addition, the underpass access on Cross Street should be moved to a point halfway between Salem Street and Hanover Street when proposed additional access ramps to the expressway at this point are under construction.

### Langdon Place Pedestrian Way (27)

A middle-income housing development of approximately 400 town houses is planned as part of the Waterfront Urban Renewal Project. The development will be located on Fulton Street between Lewis Street and Richmond Street. A strong effort should be made to physically link this new development with the older North End, as it is expected that several families with school age children will reside in these units and enroll them in the nearby parochial and public schools. A pedestrian link between the new housing development and the North End is needed.

A pedestrian walkway is proposed between North Street and Fulton Street by acquiring use of Langdon Place, a narrow alleyway between the two streets. Part of the alleyway is owned by the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority and the remainder is used as a privately owned parking lot.

The new pedestrian way should be paved with brick and should be well landscaped and lighted, as well as include a few benches and waste receptacles. The walkway should be screened from the adjacent parking areas by landscaping or fencing.

#### Hull Street and Clark Street Landscaping (28)

Street trees are considered a virtue in most neighborhoods because of their beautification effect, but they may cause problems in the North End if not chosen and placed carefully. The neighborhood is characterized by many narrow streets where there simply is not enough room for them to grow properly. Yet, if certain streets were landscaped carefully, they would add to the pleasantness of the neighborhood, and extend the park system to the streets by linking certain open spaces.

It is recommended that trees be planted on Hull Street between Snow Hill Street and Salem Street. This in effect will visually link Copps Hill Cemetery with the landscaped grounds of the Old North Church. A similar treatment is proposed for Clark Street between Hanover Street and Commercial Street, which will help link the Paul Revere Mall with the proposed Clark Street Park and across Commercial Street to the waterfront.

In addition, special decorative street lighting, especially along Hull Street, should keep in character with the historic nature of the neighborhood.

#### Commercial Street Landscaping (29)

Commercial Street is the widest street in the North End, with warehouse buildings along its waterfront edge and apartment buildings on the other side of the street. Beautification and improvement of Commercial Street is proposed in the Waterfront Urban Renewal Project but only up to Battery Street where a new small park is proposed along the waterfront. This treatment should be continued along

Copps Hill Cemetery (5)

This two acre burying ground is one of the largest open spaces in the North End and is located at the top of Copps Hill. Large shade trees provide areas for relaxing in pleasant park-like surroundings. Good views are available to the waterfront and the Charlestown Navy Yard as well as other historic features. However, some of the walls and tombstones are marked with spray paint or are broken. In addition, the cemetery does not have enough benches and is not lighted at night. Only one of the two gates is open and access to Copps Hill Terrace and the waterfront is prohibited.

PUBLIC PLAYFIELDS AND PLAYGROUNDS

The North End has six small play lots and playgrounds totalling almost two acres and one multi-facility recreation area at the North End Beach and Playground occupying 3.6 acres.

Charter Street Playground (6)

This small playground is located on Charter Street near Eliot School and is in very poor condition. The single set of swings and the benches are broken. In addition, the paving is in disrepair, the walls are marked upon and no landscaping exists. In sum, this inner block playground presents an unsightly appearance.

Cleveland Place (7)

This small open space is located off Cleveland Place, a narrow paved pedestrian street, and is owned by the City of Boston Real Property Department by a foreclosure. The site was recently paved by the City but no equipment or landscaping was provided. The small site does, however, provide a sunny open area in dense surroundings.

DeFilippo Playground (8)

DeFilippo Playground is the largest playground in the North End (over one acre) but is wasted in terms of potential use.

## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

### INTRODUCTION

The Implementation Plan consists of a listing of proposals, estimated costs, possible sources of funds, agencies with major responsibility for implementation, and a suggested staging of development.

Financing of the recommended projects will come from several possible sources:

#### Local Sources

Parks and Recreation Department  
Public Works Department  
Public Facilities Department

#### State Sources

Metropolitan District Commission,  
Department of Natural Resources,  
Public Access Board

#### Federal

Department of Housing and Urban  
Development  
Urban Beautification Program  
Open Space Land Program  
Demolition Grant Program  
Neighborhood Facilities Program

In almost all projects, a combination of local and federal funds are possible for implementing the proposals. The Federal Urban Beautification Program may fund up to fifty percent of the development costs of existing public sites, excluding demolition. The Federal Open Space Land Program may cover costs up to fifty percent of acquisition, demolition, and development of new sites. However, both programs cannot be used on a single project. The Federal Demolition Grant Program may cover up to two-thirds of the new costs of demolition of unsound structures. Finally, the Federal Neighborhood Facilities Program may provide grants

up to two-thirds of the development costs of neighborhood facilities such as a community center for accommodating programs of community service.

Currently, these are the major programs which are proposed for use in developing this recreation and open space plan. In the future as other programs are developed, or other local funds become available, application for use in the North End should be evaluated.

The schedule suggested in this study is based on two factors:

1. Implementing projects first which satisfy the most urgent recreational needs, and
2. The City's ability to finance such projects over a period of eight years in a single neighborhood.



TABLE I

SUMMARY OF SCHEDULE AND  
TOTAL COST OF ALL NORTH END PROJECTS

SCHEDULE	PROJECT	TOTAL COST	POSSIBLE SOURCE OF FUNDS
1968	Commercial Street Trees (1st phase)	\$ 13,000	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
	Copps Hill Terrace (clean stonework)	\$ 2,000	Parks & Recreation Department
	Charter Street Play lot	\$ 25,000	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
	DeFilippo Playground (1st phase)	\$ 49,000	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
1969	Hull Street Trees	\$ 8,000	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
	Commercial Street Trees (2nd phase)	\$ 10,000	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
	Cuttillo Play lot	\$ 25,500	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
	DeFilippo Playground (2nd phase)	\$ 49,000	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
	Foster Street Play lot	\$ 10,500	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
1968-1970	North Margin Street Play lot	\$ 37,000	Open Space Land Prog./Parks & Recreation Department
	New Waterfront Recreation Area	\$1,742,500	Open Space Land Prog./Metropolitan District Comm.
	Sun Court Play Street	\$ 12,000	Open Space Land Prog./Parks & Recreation Department
1970	Cleveland Place	\$ 6,500	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
	Commercial Street Trees (3rd phase)	\$ 10,000	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
	Copps Hill Terrace (remainder)	\$ 25,500	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
	Douglas Court	\$ 6,500	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
	North Square	\$ 13,500	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
	Polcari (existing site only)	\$ 32,500	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
1971	Commercial Street Trees (4th phase)	\$ 10,000	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
	North End Beach & Playgd. (1st phase)	\$ 94,000	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
1970-1972	Community Center	\$1,693,000	Neighborhood Facilities Prog./Public Fac. Dept. or private group

TABLE I (Con't)

SCHEDULE	PROJECT	TOTAL COST	POSSIBLE SOURCE OF FUNDS
1971-1972	Clark Street Park & Play lot Hanover Plaza	\$ 115,000 \$ 31,000	Open Space Land Prog./Parks & Recreation Department Open Space Land Prog./Parks & Recreation Department
1972	Clark Street Trees North End Beach & Playgd.(2nd phase)	\$ 8,000 \$ 84,000	Open Space Land Prog./Parks & Recreation Department Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
1973	North End Beach & Playgd.(3rd phase)	\$ 86,000	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
1974	Copps Hill Cemetery Polcari (remainder) Rachael Revere Square	\$ 5,500 \$ 50,500 \$ 23,000	Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept. Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept. Urban Beautification Prog./Parks & Recreation Dept.
1972-1975	Central Artery Underpass		Urban Beautification Prog./Mass.Dept.of Pub.Works
1973-1975	Endicott Square North Hanover Ct. & Anthony Pl. Tileston Street Park Wiget Street Park	\$ 20,500 \$ 93,500 \$ 12,000 \$ 3,000	Open Space Land Prog./Parks & Recreation Department Open Space Land Prog./Parks & Recreation Department Open Space Land Prog./Parks & Recreation Department Open Space Land Prog./Parks & Recreation Department
To Be Determined	Langdon Place Public Landing	--- ---	Urban Beautification Prog./Boston Dept. of Pub.Works Public Access Board

TABLE II

RECOMMENDED REVISIONS TO NORTH END  
PROJECTS IN THE 1968 CITY-WIDE URBAN  
BEAUTIFICATION APPLICATION

PROJECT	1968 APPLICATION RECOMMENDATION	NEW RECOMMENDATION
DeFilippo Playground	\$ 30,000 in 1970	\$ 49,000 in 1968 \$ 49,000 in 1969
Charter Street Play lot	\$ 5,000 in 1969	\$ 25,000 in 1968
Foster Street Play lot	\$ 3,000 in 1969	\$ 10,500 in 1969
Polcari Playground*	\$ 10,000 in 1969	\$ 32,500 in 1970
Copps Hill Terrace	\$ 20,000 in 1969	\$ 27,500 in 1970
North End Beach & Playground	\$ 50,000 in 1970	\$ 94,000 in 1971 \$ 84,000 in 1972 \$ 86,000 in 1973
City-Wide Tree Planting and Removal	\$ 75,000 in 1968** \$ 80,000 in 1969 \$ 80,000 in 1970	\$ 13,000 in 1968 \$ 18,000 in 1969 \$ 10,000 in 1970 \$ 10,000 in 1971 \$ 8,000 in 1972

\*Called Prince St. Playground in 1968 Urban Beautification Application.

\*\*Total City-Wide Urban Beautification Funds for tree planting and removal; new recommendation is the amount that should be allocated to the North End.

TABLE III

PROPOSED 1968-1974  
URBAN BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM  
NORTH END PROJECTS

YEAR	PROJECT	TOTAL COST
1968	Charter Street Play Lot	\$ 25,000
	DeFilippo Playground (1st phase)	\$ 49,000
	Commercial Street Trees (1st phase)	\$ 13,000
	TOTAL	\$ 87,000
1969	Hull Street Trees	\$ 8,000
	Commercial Street Trees (2nd phase)	\$ 10,000
	Cutillo Play Lot	\$ 25,500
	DeFilippo Playground (2nd phase)	\$ 49,000
	Foster Street Play Lot	\$ 10,000
TOTAL	\$ 102,500	
1970	Cleveland Place	\$ 6,500
	Commercial Street Trees (3rd phase)	\$ 10,000
	Copps Hill Terrace (remainder)	\$ 27,500
	Douglas Court*	\$ 6,500
	North Square	\$ 13,500
	Polcari (existing site only)**	\$ 32,500
TOTAL	\$ 96,500	
1971	Commercial Street Trees (4th phase)	\$ 10,000
	North End Beach & Playground (1st phase)	\$ 94,000
	TOTAL	\$ 104,000
1972	Clark Street Trees	\$ 8,000
	North End Beach & Playground (2nd phase)	\$ 84,000
	TOTAL	\$ 92,000
1973	North End Beach & Playground (3rd phase)	\$ 86,000
1974	Copps Hill Cemetery	\$ 5,500
	Polcari (remainder)	\$ 50,500
	Rachael Revere Square	\$ 23,000
	TOTAL	\$ 79,000
TOTAL COST OF PROJECTS		\$ 647,000

\*Includes \$500 acquisition cost; not eligible for Urban Beautification Funds.

\*\*Development of existing site only; develop remainder of site when Public Bath is demolished, which is scheduled for 1974 by this study

TABLE IV

PROPOSED OPEN SPACE LAND PROGRAM  
NORTH END PROJECTS

PROJECT	SCHEDULE	ACREAGE	LOCAL SHARE	FEDERAL SHARE	TOTAL
Waterfront Recreation Area	1968-1970	5.11	\$ 971,250	\$771,250	\$1,742,500
Sun Court Street	1968-1970	0.14	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 12,000
North Margin Street*	1968-1970	0.13	\$ 18,500	\$ 18,500	\$ 37,000
Hanover Plaza	1971-1972	0.05	\$ 15,500	\$ 15,500	\$ 31,000
Clark Street Park*	1971-1972	0.31	\$ 57,500	\$ 57,500	\$ 115,000
Wiget Street Park	1973-1975	0.01	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 3,000
Tileston Street Park	1973-1975	0.03	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 12,000
No. Hanover Ct. & Anthony Pl.	1973-1975	0.23	\$ 46,750	\$ 46,750	\$ 93,500
Endicott Square	1973-1975	0.07	\$ 10,250	\$ 10,250	\$ 20,500
TOTAL		6.08	\$1,133,250	\$933,250	\$2,066,500

\*Demolition of damaged buildings necessary; may be included in Demolition Grant Program.

TABLE V

SUMMARY OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED OPEN SPACE IN  
OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN THE NORTH END

	EXISTING OPEN SPACE ACREAGE	EXPANSION IN ACRES AT EXISTING SITES	ADDITIONAL ACRES AT NEW SITES	TOTAL PROPOSED OPEN SPACE ACREAGE
<b>PARKS AND OPEN SPACES</b>				
Copps Hill Terrace	0.60	.01	-----	0.61
Copps Hill Cemetery	2.04	-----	-----	2.04
Paul Revere Mall	0.83	-----	-----	0.83
Paul Revere Mall Extension	0.05	-----	-----	0.05
<b>URBAN PLAZAS</b>				
North Square	-----	-----	0.27	0.27
Rachael Revere Square	0.08	-----	-----	0.08
Hanover Plaza	-----	-----	0.05	0.05
Endicott Square	-----	-----	0.07	0.07
<b>WATERFRONT RECREATION AREA</b>				
North End Beach & Playground	3.60	-----	-----	3.60
Public Landing	-----	-----	0.50	0.50
Additional Playfields, Tennis Courts, Skating Rink and Waterfront Walkway	-----	-----	5.11	5.11
<b>PLAYGROUNDS</b>				
DeFilippo	1.13	-----	-----	1.13
Polcari	0.37	0.14	-----	0.51
<b>PLAY LOTS AND REST PARKS</b>				
Charter Street Play Lot	0.23	0.03	-----	0.26
Clark Street Park and Play Lot	-----	-----	0.31	0.31
Cleveland Place Play Lot	0.04	-----	-----	0.04
Cuttillo Play Lot	-----	-----	0.26	0.26
Douglas Court Play Lot	0.03	0.01	-----	0.04
Foster Street Play Lot	0.11	-----	-----	0.11
North Hanover Court and Anthony Place Rest Park	-----	-----	0.23	0.23
North Margin Street Play Lot	-----	-----	0.13	0.13
Sun Court Play Street	-----	-----	0.14	0.14
Tileston Street Rest Park	-----	-----	0.03	0.03
Wiget Street Rest Park	-----	-----	0.01	0.01
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>9.11</b>	<b>0.19</b>	<b>7.11</b>	<b>16.41</b>

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIESTo begin in 1968:

- Plant 65 trees at \$200 on Commercial Street beginning at corner of Endicott Street at cost of \$13,000. Use 1968 Urban Beautification funds for tree planting.
- Begin preparation of city-wide 1969 Urban Beautification Program. Include North End projects as indicated in Table II which shows 1968 application recommendations and adjustments to be considered for the 1969 application. Table III indicates all North End Urban Beautification Projects proposed from 1969 through 1974.
- Begin application for Open Space Land Program funds. Table IV lists projects, acreage, costs in order of priority which should be included in the programs to be completed by 1975.
- The largest project is proposed for development by the Metropolitan District Commission (the Waterfront Recreation Area). The eight other small projects should be implemented by the Parks and Recreation Department.
- North End social and recreation service agencies should begin discussions regarding their future role in the neighborhood, along with the possibility of merging administratively, functionally and/or physically. In addition, discussions should begin regarding the development of a community center either by construction of a new facility or rehabilitation of the Harbor Police Building.
- Discussions should continue regarding the development of a skating rink in conjunction with the Waterfront Recreation Area with the M.D.C.
- Discussions should continue with Public Access Board regarding proposed public landing facility.

- Discussions should continue with B.R.A. Transportation Department regarding the location and design of proposed improvements to Central Artery Underpass. The Massachusetts Department of Public Works, who will construct other ramp improvements to the Central Artery at this point, should consider the underpass improvements in their design work.
  
- Discussions should begin with Boston Public Works Department regarding development of Langdon Place scheduled for 1970-1971.

To begin in Period 1969-1975

- Projects should be planned and constructed as staged in the Urban Beautification Program, Open Space Land Program, and other programs to be used.



TABLE VI

COMPARISON OF POPULATION AND HOUSING CHANGES  
IN THE NORTH END, EAST BOSTON, CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH END  
AND THE CITY OF BOSTON

1950-1960

AREA	1950 <sup>1/</sup> POPULATION	1960 <sup>1/</sup> POPULATION	AVE. ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE 1950-1960 %	1965 <sup>2/</sup> POPULATION	AVE. ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE 1950-1960 %	1950 <sup>1/</sup> NO. OF DWELLING UNITS #	1960 <sup>1/</sup> NO. OF DWELLING UNITS #	AVE. ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE 1950-1960 %
North End	15,138	12,118	- 1.9	11,152	- 0.8	4,571	4,401	- .4
East Boston	39,526	31,840	- 1.9	29,335	- 1.6	10,929	10,510	- .4
Charlestown	31,332	20,147	- 3.6	17,245	- 2.9	6,957	6,443	- .7
South End	55,459	34,176	- 3.8	24,926	- 5.4	14,719	20,492	+ 3.9
City of Boston	801,444	697,197	- 1.3	616,326	- 2.3	222,079	238,838	+ .8

<sup>1/</sup> U.S. Census of Population and Housing, 1950 and 1960

NOTE: North End population and housing figures reflect adjustments in some block figures to modify irregularities found in the U.S. Census of Housing, Block Statistics for Boston in 1950 and 1960.

<sup>2/</sup> Massachusetts State Census

TABLE VII

COMPARISON OF POPULATION DENSITY  
IN THE NORTH END, EAST BOSTON, CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH END  
AND THE CITY OF BOSTON  
1950, 1960 AND 1965

(Persons Per Residential Acre)

AREA	RESI- DENTIAL ACREAGE	1950 POPUL- ATION	1950 POP./ ACRE	1960 POPUL- ATION	1960 POP./ ACRE	1965 POPUL- ATION	1965 POP./ ACRE	PERCENT CHANGE 1950-1965 %
North End	36	15,138*	420.5	12,118	336.6	11,152	309.8	- 26.3
East Boston	105	39,526	376.4	31,840	303.2	29,335	279.4	- 25.7
Charlestown	129	31,332	242.9	20,147	156.2	17,245	133.7	- 45.0
South End	200	55,459	277.3	34,176	170.9	24,926	124.6	- 55.1
City of Boston	14,575	801,444	54.9	697,197	47.8	616,326	42.3	- 23.0

\*See Note, Table 1

TABLE VIII

COMPARISON OF AGE DISTRIBUTIONS OF  
NORTH END, EAST BOSTON, CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH END  
AND CITY OF BOSTON

AREA	UNDER 10 YEARS OF AGE		10-19 YEARS		20-29 YEARS		30-39 YEARS		40-49 YEARS		50-59 YEARS		60-69 YEARS		70 YEARS AND OVER		TOTAL
	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	
NORTH END	1,790	15.0	1,780	14.9	1,492	12.5	1,710	14.3	1,741	14.6	1,194	10.0	1,164	9.7	1,074	9.0	11,944
EAST BOSTON	6,129	19.2	5,176	16.3	4,248	13.3	4,446	14.0	4,335	13.6	2,981	9.4	2,539	8.0	1,986	6.2	31,840
CHARLESTOWN	4,232	21.0	3,623	18.0	2,689	13.3	2,302	11.4	2,340	11.6	2,093	10.4	1,623	8.1	1,245	6.2	20,147
SOUTH END	4,555	13.3	3,631	10.6	4,413	12.9	4,326	12.7	4,601	13.5	4,794	14.0	4,405	12.9	3,451	10.1	34,176
CITY OF BOSTON	121,312	17.4	103,185	14.8	99,699	14.3	86,452	12.4	83,664	12.4	81,572	11.7	69,023	9.9	52,987	7.6	697,197

Source: U. S. Census of Population of 1960

NOTE: Population figures for the North End do not reflect adjustments made in Table I and II (See NOTE - TABLE I). For simplicity, figures as presented in the Census were used to indicate only the above general comparisons in this Table.

TABLE IX

COMPARISON OF NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS BY TYPE OF STRUCTURE  
NORTH END, EAST BOSTON, CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH END  
AND THE CITY OF BOSTON

AREA	TOTAL	1-UNIT		2-UNIT		3 & 4 UNIT		5 & 9 UNIT		10 or MORE	
		NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.	NO.	PCT.
North End	4,330	54	1.3	48	1.1	1,803	41.6	1,785	41.2	640	14.8
East Boston	10,510	703	6.7	1,538	14.6	6,908	65.7	878	8.4	483	4.6
Charlestown	6,443	1,148	17.8	1,158	18.0	2,412	37.4	677	10.5	1,048	16.3
South End	20,492	2,435	11.9	790	3.9	4,912	24.0	6,259	30.5	6,096	29.7
City of Boston	238,838	39,158	16.4	37,108	15.5	81,566	34.1	31,681	13.3	49,335	20.7

Source: U.S. Census of Population and Housing, 1960.

NOTE: Housing unit figures for the North End do not reflect adjustments made in Table I and II (see note Table 1). For simplicity, figures as presented in the census were used to indicate only general comparisons in this table.













